



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **MURAYAMA, Kei**

Group Art Unit: **1762**

Serial No.: **10/709,138**

Examiner: **Howard E. ABRAMOWITZ**

Filed: **April 15, 2004**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3137

For. **ELECTROLESS PLATING METHOD**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 25, 2006

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the outstanding Final Office Action dated May 12, 2006, extended by a Petition for Extension of Time to October 12, 2006, for the above-captioned patent application. Prior to further examination, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows: